

## **TREATMENT OF DEPRESSION SECONDARY TO PAIN (DSP)**

### **Abstract**

Methods for the prevention or treatment of atypical depression secondary to pain (DSP) have been developed. The method generally involves administering an effective amount of a monoamine re uptake inhibitor to treat or prevent symptoms of DSP. In a preferred embodiment, a therapeutically effective amount of a dual serotonin norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor (SRNI) compound of a specific type, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is administered. The most preferred SNRI compounds are non-tricyclic SNRIs, wherein serotonin reuptake inhibition is greater than norepinephrine reuptake inhibition; and NSRIs, wherein norepinephrine reuptake inhibition is greater than serotonin reuptake inhibition. The most preferred compound is milnacipran or a bioequivalent or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. Other preferred compounds are duloxetine and venlafaxine or a bioequivalent or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In yet another embodiment, a therapeutically effective amount of a non-tricyclic triple reuptake inhibitor (“TRI”) compound of a specific type, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is administered. The TRI compounds are characterized by their ability to block the reuptake (and, hence, increase central concentrations of) the three primary brain monoamines: serotonin, noradrenaline, and dopamine.